

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating patients with or at risk for heparin-induced thrombocytopenia, including the prophylaxis and treatment of thrombosis in heparin-induced thrombocytopenia, comprising continually administering to a patient with or at risk for HIT, with or without thrombosis, an anticoagulant until platelet counts in said patient have recovered substantially.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the anticoagulant is selected from the group consisting of lepirudin, enoxaparin, dalteparin, tinzaparin, bivalirudin, and fondaparinux.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the anticoagulant is a direct thrombin inhibitor.
4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the direct thrombin inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of Argatroban, bivalirudin, efegatran, inogatran, desirudin, and lepirudin.
5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the direct thrombin inhibitor is Argatroban or lepirudin.
6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the direct thrombin inhibitor is Argatroban.
7. A method of preventing an upsurge in thrombin regeneration and the prevention of new thromboembolic complications in patients with or at risk for HIT, with or without thrombosis, comprising continually administering to a patient with or at risk for HIT, with or without thrombosis, an anticoagulant until platelet counts in said patient have recovered substantially.
8. A method of lowering the risk of venous limb gangrene in a patient in need of HIT treatment comprising continually administering to a patient with or at risk for

HIT, with or without thrombosis, an anticoagulant until platelet counts in said patient have recovered substantially.

9. A method of lowering the risk of amputation in a patient in need of HIT
5 treatment comprising continually administering to a patient with or at risk for HIT, with or without thrombosis, an anticoagulant until platelet counts in said patient have recovered substantially.
10. A method of treating HIT involving the co-administration of Argatroban and
10 a coumarin derivative comprising the administration of Argatroban until substantial recovery of platelet count, followed by the administration of the coumarin derivative, such that there is overlap in Argatroban and coumarin derivative therapy.
11. A method according to claim 9 wherein the coumarin derivative is warfarin.
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12. A method according to claim 10 such that the overlap in therapy is for a period of no less than 4 days.
13. A method according to claim 11 wherein the overlap is 4-5 days.
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